

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-14 are now pending in the application. Minor amendments have been made to the specification and claims to simply overcome the objections to the specification and rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112. The amendments to the claims contained herein are of equivalent scope as originally filed and, thus, are not a narrowing amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

## **DOUBLE PATENTING**

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 13, and 14 are provisionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 12, 13, 15, and 18, respectively, of co-pending Application No. 10/806,481.

Applicant respectfully notes that when a provisional statutory double patenting rejection is the only rejection remaining in one of a pair of co-pending applications, the Examiner should withdraw the rejection and permit the application to issue, thereby converting the provisional double patenting rejection in the other co-pending application into a double patenting rejection. (See MPEP § 804 I. B. 2).

## **CLAIM OBJECTIONS**

Claim 7 is objected to for certain informalities. Applicant amended claim 7 according to the Examiner's suggestion.

**REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112**

Claims 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

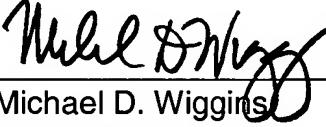
Applicant amended claims 13 and 14 to recite “an electronic circuit.” For example, “[f]ormal verification is a name for a variety of methods for proving the correctness of electronic circuit designs.” Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of claims 13 and 14 is adequately described in the specification and that claims 13 and 14 comply with the written description requirement.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 11, 2006

By:   
Michael D. Wiggins  
Reg. No. 34,754

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
P.O. Box 828  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303  
(248) 641-1600

MDW/mp/dma